

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9933
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00826

FOR EMBASSY CAPE TOWN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: WESTERN FIVE MEETING MARCH 8

1. FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS MET FOLLOWING 8 MARCH SC MEETING
ON RHODESIA (SEPTTEL). UK REPORTED MUGABE AND NKOMO
WILL WISH TO SPEAK AT 9 MARCH SC MEETING AND NOTED THAT
AFRICAN OPINION, ALTHOUGH DIVIDED, SEEMS TO BE MOVING
INTO OPPOSITION TO A HEARING FOR MUZOREWA. US NOTED NKOMO
AND MUGABE ARE ARGUING THAT SINCE THEY CANNOT BE HEARD
IN SALISBURY, WHILE MUZOREWA SPEECH CERTAIN TO RECEIVE
EXTENSIVE COVERAGE, ALLOWING MUZOREWA TO SPEAK WILL RESULT
IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL PLUS FOR HIM. THEY ALSO CONTEND
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THAT SIMTH WOULD USE A COUNCIL HEARING OF MUZOREWA AS A
TRIUMPH FOR HIMSELF AND THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. US HAD
SOUGHT TO COUNTER THESE CONCERNS (SEPTTEL) BUT WITHOUT
EVIDENT SUCCESS. AMB YOUNG SAID WESTERN FIVE MUST TRY
TO GET THE NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS TO AGREE TO SUPPORT AN
INVITATION TO MUZOREWA. THE AFRICANS WOULD THEN NOT
RPT NOT CONTEST HIS BEING HEARD BECAUSE THEY WOULD WISH

TO AVOID A DEFEAT ON THE QUESTION. PRELIMINARY US CONTACTS SHOWED VENEZUELA AND BOLIVIA IN FAVOR OF A HEARING. UK SAID INDIA ALSO APPEARED TO SUPPORT. (WHILE WESTERN FIVE MEETING IN PROGRESS, HOWEVER, AMBASSADORS JAIPAL (INDIA) AND BISHORA (KUWAIT) TOLD MISOFF AD REFERENDUM THAT MAJORITY AFRICAN SENTIMENT WAS CLEARLY AGAINST MUZOREWA SPEAKING AND THAT IT WOULD BE HARD FOR THEM TO VOTE AGAINST AFRICAN OPINION. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, BOTH SAID THAT THE DEBITS OF ALLOWING MUZOREWA TO SPEAK APPEARED TO OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS. BOTH SUGGESTED THAT, AS AN ALTERNATIVE, MUZOREWA ASK TO MEET INDIVIDUALLY WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS.)

2. AMB RICHARD SAID THAT IF THE AFRICANS DECIDE TO OPPOSE, BRITISH PUBLIC OPINION WOULD COMPEL THE UK TO GO PUBLIC BY RAISING THE ISSUE IN THE COUNCIL AND VOTING FOR A HEARING. OTHER FOUR AGREED THAT IN THAT CASE, THEY WOULD SPEAK IN SUPPORT AND JOIN IN VOTING FOR A HEARING. HOWEVER, AS AMB YOUNG POINTED OUT, OUR FIRST OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO PERSUADE THE AFRICANS NOT TO OPPOSE.

3. UK ALSO SOUGHT TO GET OTHER FOUR TO AGREE TO JOIN WITH UK IN SUBMITTING A LETTER ASKING THAT MUZOREWA BE HEARD IF THIS SHOULD PROVE NECESSARY. CANADA, FRANCE AND FRG INDICATED THEY WOULD NEED TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS AND WOULD DO SO. BRITISH ARE CORRECTLY TRYING TO

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AVOID NECESSITY FOR ANY LETTER; NONE WOULD BE NEEDED IF THE COUNCIL WERE TO ACQUIESCE IN A HEARING WITHOUT A VOTE OR OTHER PROCEDURAL CONFRONTATION. IF THE AFRICANS OPPOSE A HEARING, A LETTER WILL BE NECESSARY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LONG-STANDING PRACTICE. IT IS PLAIN THAT EACH OF THE FIVE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID PUTTING IN A LETTER BUT WE ESTIMATE MOST IF NOT ALL WOULD BE WILLING TO DO SO IF THIS WERE TO PROVE NECESSARY.

4. WITH RESPECT TO PARTICIPATION BY FOREIGN MINISTERS, IT WAS NOTED THAT MWALE (ZAMBIA) AND GARBA (NIGERIA) ARE EN ROUTE TO NY.

5. CONCERNING RESOLUTIONS ON RHODESIA, FIVE AGREED TO MEET 9 MARCH 11:00 AM TO DISCUSS ELEMENTS OF A POSSIBLE RESOLUTION. ALL AGREED WITH CANADIAN POINT THAT CONTINUED FAILURE TO COMMENT ON THE VARIOUS PAPERS BEING FLOATED IN CORRIDORS MIGHT LEAD TO FREEZING OF AN UNACCEPTABLE TEXT, AND THAT NEED FOR A TEXT OR ELEMENTS THAT THE FIVE CAN SUPPORT IS URGENT.

6. UK REPORTED ZAMBIA IS SUBMITTING A LETTER TO THE SC

CALLING FOR A COUNCIL SESSION TO CONDEMN THE RHODESIAN
RAID INTO ZAMBIA. YOUNG

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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